1: Jochelson E-5 (1900-01) 1908 RY4 Koryak RY4

Kamchadal ports Tigil and Petropavlovsk, and that are used for clothing by the Kamchadal and the Russians in Kamchatka.

MANAGEMENT OF FOOD-SUPPLIES. — I have had occasion to observe many cases of lack of foresight in northern Siberia. Thus the Yukaghir, in the early part of winter, squander their supplies of fish, and regale their Yakut visitors liberally, while towards spring they go hungry. The lack of restraint or foresight also hinders the growth of the Tungus herds. A poor Tungus will kill his riding-reindeer for meat more readily than will a wealthy Koryak kill one that has not been broken. On this abstinence is based the increase of the Koryak herds. A herd-owner, like the simple herdsman, while tending the herd far from home, will feed on carrion or will go hungry rather than kill a reindeer for himself. Some travellers have complained of the stinginess of the Reindeer Koryak and of their reluctance to kill reindeer for their guests, to whom they serve the meat of animals fallen from disease. Notwithstanding all his abstemiousness, the owner of a herd, as I have said above, may kill reindeer for actually starving people, and at times becomes recklessly extravagant in order to show off his wealth.

The Maritime Koryak consume the provisions laid up in their storehouses economically, and hide them from visitors, lest they might ask for some. In the village Kamenskoye, where the main supply of fish consists of dog-salmon, I was told that for years at a time full storehouses of dried uyo'k (*Salmo socialis*) are kept for the contingency of a poor catch of dog-salmon.

Thanks to such foresight, and to the relative abundance of fish and sea-mammals in Koryak waters, actual famines are very rare among the Maritime Koryak. However, a great famine occurred in the late seventies along the coasts of Penshina Bay. I did not succeed in learning the exact date. During that summer almost no fish entered the rivers. As a result of this, there were almost no sea-mammals, either, near the coast. Therefore there was not enough food for the winter; and in spring a genuine famine set in, especially when the snow began to melt, and communication with the Reindeer Koryak and the Russians became impossible. I was told that during that famine nearly half of the population of the Itkana villages and a part of the Paren people died. Since then no such disastrous summer has recurred, although toward spring food has been scanty every year.

Thanks to their herds, the Reindeer Koryak are secure against such famine. Poor people usually keep near the herd of a wealthy kinsman, or follow him and avail themselves of his gifts when in need. Murrain, which frequently appears among the reindeer, naturally undermines the prosperity of the herd-owners; but during the epidemic there can be no famine, as the Koryak eat the fallen reindeer.